

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for managing telecommunications services provided by at least one colocation site each having a plurality of disparate non-homogenous telecommunications resources, the method comprises the steps of:

communicating with customers regarding at least one telecommunications resource within the at least one colocation site;

managing provisioning of said at least one telecommunications resource within the at least one colocation site in response to communications with said customers;

collecting information on operation of said at least one telecommunications resource; and

reporting to said customers based on said collected information.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said communicating step further comprises receiving requests for pre-sales information including at least one of pricing, availability, equipment configuration, and space within the colocation site.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said communicating step further comprises receiving an order for use of said at least one telecommunications resource.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said communicating step further comprises providing said customers with account status.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein said communicating step further comprises receiving a request to terminate use of said at least one telecommunications resource.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said managing step further comprises maintaining a database reflecting status of all telecommunications resources in said at least one colocation site, said status further including at least one of identification of equipment, space availability, capacity, current load, and customer allocation.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said managing step further comprises changing connections between said at least one telecommunications resource and at least one other telecommunications resource.

5 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein said managing step further comprises monitoring trouble reports reflecting technical problems with said at least one telecommunications resource.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein said managing step further comprises providing technical support in response to said communications with said customers.

10 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said managing step further comprises monitoring performance status of said at least one telecommunications resource.

11. The method of Claim 1, wherein said managing step further comprises installing equipment provided by said customers within said colocation site.

15 12. The method of Claim 11, wherein said installing step further comprises providing rack space and electrical power for said equipment provided by said customers.

13. The method of Claim 1, wherein said collecting step further comprises maintaining an archive of all data and reports generated within the at least one colocation site.

20 14. The method of Claim 1, wherein said collecting step further comprises collecting data in accordance with Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) from network devices within the at least one colocation site.

15. The method of Claim 1, wherein said collecting step further comprises collecting a video record of physical activity within the at least one colocation site.

25 16. The method of Claim 15, wherein said collecting step further comprises archiving said video record.

17. The method of Claim 1, wherein said reporting step further comprises generating billing reports reflecting usage of said at least one telecommunications resource.

18. The method of Claim 1, wherein said reporting step further comprises
5 reporting performance status of said at least one telecommunications resource.

19. The method of Claim 1, wherein said reporting step further comprises reporting trouble reports reflecting technical problems with said at least one telecommunications resource.

10 20. The method of Claim 1, wherein said managing step further comprises changing connection status of said at least one telecommunications resource in satisfaction of an order negotiated on an exchange.

21. A colocation site management architecture, comprising:

at least one colocation site having a plurality of disparate telecommunications resources;

15 a customer service module adapted to communicate with customers regarding at least one telecommunications resource within the at least one colocation site;

20 an engineering module adapted to manage provisioning of said at least one telecommunications resource within the at least one colocation site in response to communications with said customers; and

a management information system (MIS) module adapted to collect information on operation of said at least one telecommunications resource and report to said customers based on said collected information.

25 22. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said customer service module receives requests from said customers for pre-sales information including at least one of pricing, availability, equipment configuration, and space within the colocation site.

23. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said customer service module receives orders from said customers for use of said at least one telecommunications resource.

5 24. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said customer service module provides said customers with account status.

25. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said customer service module receives from said customers requests to terminate use of said at least one telecommunications resource.

10 26. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said engineering module further comprises a database reflecting status of all telecommunications resources in said at least one colocation site, said status further including at least one of identification of equipment, space availability, capacity, current load, and customer allocation.

15 27. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said engineering module changes connections between said at least one telecommunications resource and at least one other telecommunications resource.

28. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said engineering module monitors trouble reports reflecting technical problems with said at least one telecommunications resource.

20 29. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said engineering module provides technical support in response to said communications with said customers.

25 30. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said engineering module monitors performance status of said at least one telecommunications resource.

31. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 21, wherein said engineering module installs equipment provided by said customers within said colocation site.

5 32. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein said engineering module provides rack space and electrical power for said equipment provided by said customers.

33. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein said MIS module maintains an archive of all data and reports generated within the at least one colocation site.

10 34. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein said MIS module collects data in accordance with Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) from network devices within the at least one colocation site.

15 35. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein said MIS module collects a video record of physical activity within the at least one colocation site.

36. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 35, wherein said MIS module archives said video record.

20 37. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein said MIS module generates billing reports reflecting usage of said at least one telecommunications resource.

38. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein said MIS module reports performance status of said at least one telecommunications resource.

25 39. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein said MIS module reports technical problems with said at least one telecommunications resource.

40. The colocation site management architecture of Claim 31, wherein engineering module changes connection status of said at least one telecommunications resource in satisfaction of an order negotiated on an exchange.